Attorney Docket No.: 55190-012

(i) -an

RECEIVED

SEP 2 1 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICECH CENTER 1600/2900

Application of

Josee HAMEL, et al.

Serial No.: 09/471,255

Filed: December 23, 1999

Title: NOVEL STREPTOCOCCUS ANTIGENS

Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: V. Portner

16/0

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Honorable Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Election of Species Requirement described in Office Action [non-final] mailed August 22, 2001, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire September 22, 2001, Applicants hereby elect for prosecution in the above-identified application the BVH-3 polypeptide sequence (SEQ ID No. 2). The requirement for election of species is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 30, as follows.

30. (Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein said bacterial infection is S.pneumonia, group A streptococcus (pyogenes), group B streptococcus (GBS or agalactiae), dysgalactiae, uberis, nocardia or Staphylococcus aureus.

WDC99 483689-2.055190.0012